

ALA American Library Association

October 23, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45.

Dear Secretary Dortch,

The American Library Association (ALA) respectfully endorses Linda Lord for appointment to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors to fill the library position. During her tenure as Maine State Librarian, Ms. Lord has developed the knowledge and experience necessary to represent the needs of libraries and to make a significant contribution to the USAC Board. Most recently Ms. Lord received the Champion Award for Education, Training, and Leadership Development from the Maine Development Foundation for her leadership and investment in helping the people of Maine reach their full potential.

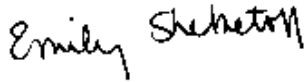
Her ability to collaborate and high professional standards as well as her demonstrated innovative approaches to promoting learning, training, and leadership development will be a direct boon to the USAC board and to E-rate applicants across the country. ALA is confident that Ms. Lord will be a strong Board representative for libraries that are eligible to receive discounts.

Ms. Lord has long been an advocate for the library community as Maine State Librarian, a member of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), and serving as Chair of ALA's E-rate Task Force. Ms. Lord is intimately familiar with the E-rate program and the experiences of library applicants. In addition to her deep knowledge and understanding of the E-rate program, the Maine State Library is part of a state-wide consortium that runs the network which provides internet access for 899 of Maine's libraries and schools. In addition to her current position as Maine State Librarian, Ms. Lord spent six years in the Maine Department of Education and appreciates the concerns of the education community as well. Ms. Lord brings this additional knowledge with her to the USAC Board. ALA is most appreciative of Ms. Lord's commitment to the library community and our issues

ALA nominates Ms. Lord to the USAC Board of Directors to fill the library position. We are confident she will provide the necessary leadership that ensures the integrity and continued success of the E-rate program in particular and the Universal Service Fund in general.

A copy of Ms. Lord's professional biography is attached. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Sheketoff". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Emily Sheketoff
Executive Director
American Library Association
Washington Office

LINDA H. LORD, MLS

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MOST RECENT WORK HISTORY

Maine State Library, Augusta, ME: State Librarian (2009 to present); Acting State Librarian (2008-2009); Deputy State Librarian (2005-08); Director of Library Development (1997-99); LSTA Coordinator (1999-present); Library Development Coordinator (1999 to present)

Maine Department of Education, Augusta, ME: Instructional Technology Coordinator (1998-99); ATM Distance Learning Project Manager (1997-99); ITV Coordinator/Distance Education Consultant for Maine (1992-98)

Mount View Junior/Senior High School, Thorndike, ME
Library/Media Specialist (1978-94)

RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS

- Chair of American Library Association E-rate Task Force 2006 to present)
- Testified before U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation regarding federal e-rate program (July, 2013)
- Received Maine Development Foundation's (MDF) Champion Award for Education, Training, and Leadership Development (Sept. 2013)
- Participated in meetings at Federal Communications Commission regarding e-rate (May 2010; Sept. 2011; July 2013); and Directly involved with an E-rate simplification process presented to the FCC
- Assumed leadership roles in Federal, State and regional library-related organizations and agencies
- Helped in development of the Maine School Library Network (MSLN) (1995-1997)
- One of four voting members on NetworkMaine Council (has oversight for Maine School and Library Network) (1998-present)
- Contract manager for MSLN-related contracts (Verizon, UNET, Maine Mathematics and Science Association 2004-2009); and served on Maine School and Library Network Advisory Board 1995-1998
- Department of Education ATM (two-way, broadband, interactive video, voice and data network), Project Manager, 1997-99

COMPETENCIES AND DEMONSTRATED SKILLS

Leadership and Management

- Led successful Beacon School Grant application process for Maine School Administrative District #3

- Initiated a strategic plan for the professional association of school librarians
- Serves as the first woman selectperson in the town of Brooks, Maine
- Led successful first time effort toward application for receipt of two Community Block Grants for the town of Brooks, Maine

Collaboration and Partnerships

- Collaborated with the State Cultural Affairs Council to address a complex State audit
- Partnered with the Maine State Department of Education in developing annual MSLN reports to the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC) which include recommendations for budget expenditures and policies and procedures
- Contribute funds and staff to LET'S TALK ABOUT IT program and support the National Book Festival in partnership with the Maine Humanities Council
- Share resources and oversight of InfoNet with the University of Maine System
- Led RFP and contracting for four COSLINE libraries to establish evaluation of five year LSTA plans
- Established significant coordination of and collaboration among regional library consultants in Maine, resulting in shared program development, resources, and increased continuing education opportunities for Maine librarians
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- Facilitated the awarding and implementation of three Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grants to benefit Maine libraries

Innovation and Vision

- Established vision, goals and objectives for innovative approaches to high school science and math instruction
- Presented the case for distance learning in Maine high schools and successfully communicated the advantages to teachers and technology coordinators
- Provide hundreds of online continuing education courses, communication tools, technology planning templates and an online calendar through membership in WebJunction
- Received legislative authority to establish Friends of the Maine State Library
- Received legislative authority to include a voluntary income tax check off contribution for Maine Public Library Fund

EDUCATION

M.L.S., University of Maine

B.A. Colby College, Major: Government - Minor: English, *Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society*

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

SLAS (State Library Agency Section of ASCLA) Chair, 2007; Maine Digit Summit Planning Committee, Member, 2007-to present; ALA E-rate Task Force, Chair, 2006-present; ALA National

Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C., Delegate, 1996-2012; Net Tech (NYC Federally-funded Consortium to promote educational technology), Advisory Board Member, 1998-00; Maine Library Commission, Member, 1992-99 (Vice Chair 1995-99); New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Member of seven accreditation committees; Maine State Department of Education Computers for Schools Program, Member, 1997-99; Beacon Grant Steering Committee Chair, M.S.A.D. #3, 1992-94